

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA: School of Theatre + Dance

TPA2202C: *Stagecraft*

Syllabus – Fall 2020

CLASS:

Tuesday/Thursday, 4/5 Period, 10:40 AM – 12:30 PM, T109 (Scene Shop)

Class will *generally* be conducted via zoom video conferencing (check Canvas for link); there are exceptions where we will meet in-person.

Class will be split into two sections, each covering the same content.

LAB:

1719: Lab, section 1, 1:55 PM – 4:55 PM Monday

2716: Lab, section 2, 1:55 PM – 4:55 PM Tuesday

4724: Lab, section 3, 1:55 PM – 4:55 PM Wednesday

1773: Lab, section 4, 1:55 PM – 4:55 PM Thursday

Lab sessions will be in person, in T109 (Scene Shop of Nadine McGuire Pavilion)

FINAL:

Final Exam: 12/18/20, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

INSTRUCTOR:

Rob Leach

rleach@arts.ufl.edu

352-294-0459

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday afternoons, by appointment, Room G-016 (get link on Canvas)

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

TEXTBOOK:

Carter, Paul. *Backstage Handbook*. Third Edition ISBN: 0-911747-39-7

TOOLS:

#2 Pencil

16 foot (minimum length) steel tape measure

Safety glasses, impact rated to Z87.1 standard. If the glasses don't have this rating on the physical glasses (i.e. only have it on the package), please don't buy that pair. Please bring all tools to every lab.

IN-PERSON ATTIRE:

Work clothes: pants (such as jeans or khakis), sleeved shirt, and closed-toe/closed-heel shoes; long hair should be tied back; personal accessories must be removed (i.e., dangling necklaces, watches...).

OBJECTIVES:

This course introduces skills and crafts of technical theatre, and teaches materials, techniques, tools, and supplies basic to the execution of technical elements of productions. Students will learn basic construction techniques and types of tools, utilize hand and power tools, and explore specialized equipment necessary for various technical trades in the entertainment industry.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1

Tuesday, Sept. 1

Thursday, Sept. 3

CLASS: Introduction to Stagecraft: review syllabus, students acknowledge section

LAB: hand tools

Assignment #1: Backstage Handbook pages 1-8

Assignment #2: what do you hope to learn from this class?

Required for Week 2 class/lab and all subsequent weeks: book, tape measure, safety glasses

Week 2

September 7: Labor Day

Tuesday, Sept. 8

Thursday, Sept. 10

CLASS: PPE and safety, triple constraints, risk assessment, drafting basics

LAB power tools, stationary (table saw, mitre saw, drill press, belt sander, panel saw)

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 32-41 & 120-130

Week 3

Tuesday, Sept. 15

Thursday, Sept. 17

CLASS common building materials, the cut list

LAB power tools, portable

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 276-279

Week 4

Tuesday, Sept. 22

Thursday, Sept. 24

CLASS: what is a flat?

LAB soft flat framing

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 25-30 & 134-145

Week 5

Tuesday, Sept. 29

Thursday, Oct. 1

October 2 - 3: Homecoming

CLASS: paint and scenic processes, soft flat continued

LAB soft flat continued

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 257-263 & 280-285

Week 6

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Thursday, Oct. 8

CLASS Theatre types and soft goods, scenic conventions if time

LAB soft-covering flat and painting

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 262-267

Week 7

Tuesday, Oct. 13

Thursday, Oct. 15

CLASS Rigging, Counterweight rigging system, bowline

LAB, start apple box, knot test

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 177-183

Week 8

Tuesday, Oct. 20

Thursday, Oct. 22

CLASS Lighting plot, clove hitch

LAB, hanging a light, knot test

Assignment: Backstage Handbook pages 49-63

Week 9

Tuesday, Oct. 27

Thursday, Oct. 29

CLASS Nuts and Bolts of hardware, simple machines

LAB, continue apple box, time for final project

Week 10

Tuesday, Nov. 3—ELECTION DAY

Thursday, Oct. 5

CLASS: scenic conventions

LAB, flats due at the end of your lab, project grading

LAB, apple box, time for final project

Assignment: week 14 lab content

Week 11

Tuesday, Nov. 10

November 11: Veterans Day

Thursday, Oct. 12

CLASS, TBA

LAB, work time, apple boxes due at the end of your lab

Week 12

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Thursday, Oct. 19

CLASS, TBA

LAB, work time

Week 13

Tuesday, Nov. 24—all class (both sections) in Constans Theatre for audio with Jing Zhao

November 25 - 28: Thanksgiving break

Thursday, Oct. 26—no class

LAB, Monday makeup for 1st week of class

Week 14

Tuesday, Dec. 1—no class this section

Thursday, Dec. 3—all class (both sections) via zoom, projection with Michael Clark

CLASS projection with Michael Clark

ONLINE LAB, TBA

Week 15

Tuesday, Dec. 8—BOTH SECTIONS

INTERPRETATION PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Thursday, Dec. 10—no class (Reading Days Dec. 10-11)

NO LAB THIS WEEK

Final Exam

ONLINE EXAM DEC. 18.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated by successful completion of two construction projects, creation of a virtual tool box, execution and presentation of an interpretive final project, with two knot tests, a final exam, and potential enrichment opportunities. Grades will be calculated by tallying points a student earns; there will be a minimum of 840 points available. The following is a guide to point distribution, but will not be completely accurate until the end of the semester (as the exam has not been created and will reflect actual covered content).

Flat project	100 pts	Knot 2	20 pts
Paint project	100 pts	Virtual tool box	150 pts
Box project	100 pts	Interpretation project	150 pts
Knot 1	20 pts	Final exam	200 pts

Students may resubmit work (except for exams and Interpretation project) if they feel they can improve on a grade. Resubmissions must be done prior to Thanksgiving week (November 20th)

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Theatre is a collaborative environment that demands continual support. Your successful completion of this course is based on discussion and class participation. Attendance is vital. Only one (1) unexcused absences from class will be permitted without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will lower your final grade by 5%. Two (2) late arrivals and/or early departures to/from class will count as one (1) absence. Three unexcused absences will result in a failing grade in this class.

Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>) and require appropriate documentation.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

UF GRADING POLICIES:

Earned grades will align with UF policies; information can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradestext-otp1>

COVID 19 CONSIDERATIONS:

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during in-person class and lab sessions, and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.

Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.

Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.](#)

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies.](#)

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

Please take care of yourself mentally and physically. Accept responsibility for your successes and failures. Earn your grade. Adhere to university policies. Respect your peers, facilities, and the staff and faculty of the school.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Honor Code.](#) Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONICS:

While personal electronics such as tablets and laptops can be acceptable for class purposes, cell phones should only be used for emergencies, and calls must be handled outside of class/lab. Please conduct yourself during online learning as you would in a physical classroom.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluer.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

I do appreciate personal comments that you can provide during class, or ideas about making content more relevant.